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LOCAL CHAPTERS AND NOTES

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, THE DOCTORS' ACADEMY.—Such members of the faculty as possess non-professional doctors' degrees have recently organized the Doctors' Academy for the promotion of a keener spirit of research and a finer love of scholarship in faculty and alumni, the encouragement of graduate study and the deepening of the ties of fellowship between faculty and alumni. Active fellows will include only persons holding non-professional doctors' degrees in course who are regents, officers, members of the faculty, or alumni of the university. There will be honorary and associate fellows. The Academy will have power to grant charters, alone in the first instance, and in association with other like academies thereafter, to similar bodies of men in other institutions.

"The Doctors' Academy, as above briefly set forth, is the fruit of a long study of the need of an organization that will function in the sphere of graduate instruction in a manner similar to that in which the honor fraternity of Phi Beta Kappa functions in the sphere of undergraduate instruction. That the organization assumes the form of an academy rather than of a fraternity is due primarily to the fact that graduate study deals fundamentally with research as well as with high scholarship.

"An honor fraternity can function as a reward and as a stimulus for high scholarship but only an academy can afford suitable scope for the exercise of a proper spirit of research. Moreover, the academy is an organ of high dignity such as becomes the capstone of our educational system. It cannot only confer a signal honor, it will also afford to those so disposed an opportunity to do work of a high order. Such an organization, in order to exert a proper compelling force in higher education, must be highly exacting in its requirements for fellowship. Now, the capstone of the educational system of modern times is the doctor's degree *in cursu* and more especially the non-professional doctor's degree, than which none higher is offered anywhere. Therefore an organization to reward and to promote graduate studies can include only recipients of doctor's degrees, if it is to symbolize ade-

quately the completion of the scheme of higher studies prevailing in our time. The doctors' academies may therefore well fill a gap in our present educational activities."

F. P. DANIELS, in *School and Society*.

BARNARD COLLEGE.—"The Barnard College Student Council, discussing the faculty censorship on outside speakers invited to speak at the college, expresses itself thus:

Resolved, That there is nothing gained in shielding students during four years from problems and ideas they must face during the rest of their life;

That if they are considered incapable of rational judgment upon theories presented to them, the solution lies in further training in scientific method rather than in quarantine from ideas;

That a reputation for fearless open-mindedness is more to be desired for an academic institution than material prosperity;

That, therefore, we wish to go on record as opposing any form of censorship of the college platform. . . .

Recognizing the impossibility of attaining this ideal at present, the Student Council petitions the dean of Barnard College 'at least to make the certainty of incurring undesired notoriety for the college the only basis for exclusion of outside speakers.' "

The Nation.

CARLETON COLLEGE.—The faculty of Carleton College adopted on March 13, 1922 a system known as the "Candidates-for-Honors Plan." Its purpose is to secure to the students who have demonstrated unusual capacity and superior initiative freedom from the requirements of the regular curriculum. Any student who has completed the first semester of the sophomore year may apply for admission to candidacy for honors. His application must be endorsed by at least one member of the faculty and approved by the faculty as a whole. If he is accepted, his special work as an honors student begins with the first semester of his junior year. Thus the last half of his course is spent according to the new plan. His work is arranged now largely at his own choice but not completely so, and the faculty reserves the right to demote an honors candidate and to subject him again to the regular course requirements, if the circumstances seem to justify it. He must have conferences with his instructor and is

required to take a general examination in the field of his particular choice. He is expected to produce papers and reports of his special studies. A more formal thesis is required in his graduating semester. He is exempted from the ordinary course examinations in the final semester and may also be excused for absences from regular attendance in certain classes. He is expected to concentrate in a definite group of subjects, and to that end Fields of Concentration have been arranged as follows: Classics, Modern Languages, English Literature, Natural Science, and Social Science. However, these fields are not rigid and a new grouping may be formed to suit the needs of some individual student.

It is hoped that such a system will furnish the right opportunity for the exceptional student, free him from the drawbacks of class-work designed for slower students, and provide the means whereby with the minimum of outside restriction he may develop his peculiar gifts to their highest capacity and attain appropriate recognition.

IOWA STATE COLLEGE.—Constitution of the Local Chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

I. Purposes.

The Iowa State College Chapter of the A. A. U. P. shall have as its objects, coöperation with the Association and the advancement of standards and ideals of teaching and research in this college.

II. Membership.

Membership shall be as prescribed in Article II and XI of the parent Association.

III. Officers.

The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. They shall be elected at a regular meeting in November of each year and shall serve for one year from the date of their election or until their successors shall be elected.

IV. Dues and Assessments.

The annual dues shall be \$1.00 per member. The fiscal year shall begin November 1st.

V. Quorum.

Eight of the active members shall constitute a quorum.

VI Meetings.

The President shall call at least one meeting during the first two months of each quarter. He shall call a meeting at any time when two members of the chapter request him to do so.

VII. Amendments.

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting by a majority vote of the entire membership of the chapter; provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing at a previous meeting, and the Secretary shall have informed all members in writing of it.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.—Resolutions adopted by the Corporation June 7, 1922.

WHEREAS the outcome of the great war has left the United States in a much strengthened international situation

AND WHEREAS the new leadership of America is attracting to our shores a large number of foreign students to pursue their work in our higher institutions of learning

AND WHEREAS it has always been the policy of enlightened nations to encourage so far as may be the influx of serious students from abroad

AND WHEREAS the presence of these students is of great importance to the United States in extending and consolidating her newly acquired international leadership

AND WHEREAS the present operation of the Immigration Act has been the source of serious annoyance to incoming students and has thereby lessened their enthusiasm for America and American institutions, and will, if continued, work very harmfully against our good name among the nations

Now Therefore be it Resolved by the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that steps should be taken at the very earliest possible date by all competent public authorities toward amending the recently adopted, and more recently extended, three per cent Immigration Act by exempting from its provisions all bona fide students of recognized educational institutions authorized by statute to confer degrees

And be it further Resolved that in case no amendment to this Act may be made effective before September 1, 1922, every possible

effort should be made by the duly constituted authorities toward the adoption of administrative rulings which will permit the entrance in September with the least possible delay and annoyance of the large number of students sure to come to this country.

HONORS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY.—“All over the country institutions of higher learning are discussing and experimenting with various plans which aim to provide for the development of the student with unusual gifts and powers. One of these plans which has been used by a number of universities and colleges is the awarding of honors at graduation to those students who have shown superior scholarship. The plan of awarding honors at Stanford University, which was established recently, involves no unique principles, but in its several classes of honors and in its method of choosing the honor students, presents certain interesting variations from the usual procedure.

“There are given at Stanford now three kinds of honors: Graduation Honors, Stanford Scholarships, and Lower Division Honors, all of which aim to stimulate excellent academic work and to emphasize the importance and worth of scholarship. Also, each of these is designed to reach students at a different stage of their academic life. Graduation Honors are given for the work of the last five quarters preceding the quarter in which the student graduates. Stanford Scholarships are awarded to students of Upper Division standing, and Lower Division Honors are awarded at the end of the second year of work.

“Those students receiving Graduation Honors are divided into two classes. The first of these is graduated with “great distinction” and is composed of the upper twentieth of the class, if this number does not fall below a minimum grade average between “A” and “B.” The second class receiving graduation honors includes the upper tenth of those who graduate, exclusive of the first division, provided that this number does not fall below a minimum grade average of B. The scholarship requirement for Stanford Scholars is that for graduation with great distinction, while Lower Division Honors are given to the upper tenth of the Lower Division students without regard to a minimum standard.

“Besides scholarship there are several other points considered in choosing Stanford Scholars and the scholars for Graduation Honors,

which are interesting because they show an attempt to consider the students of varied interests. The possibility of all the honor students coming from a few departments is guarded against by apportioning them among the five general groups of departments in the university in proportion to the candidates for graduation in those departments.

"Also in order to be eligible for honors, whatever his scholarship rank may be, a student must have at least 40 hours of advanced work so that the university guards its distinction from the charge of being too easily won through elementary courses. Again, that a student may not be judged solely by his record in the registrar's office, the departments are requested to recommend students who have done exceptionally good work and such a recommendation from a department will increase materially a student's chances for honors. Moreover, any student who wishes, may request the department to give him a comprehensive examination in his major subject. In this way a student who feels that his best work has been done in his major department at the possible neglect of his work in other departments, may have full credit for a mastery of his chosen field. At present the granting of such a request is optional with the departments but it is certain that no department will refuse to give such an examination if the student requests it.

"In adopting this plan the university did not assume that the whole problem of stimulating and meeting the needs of the gifted student had been met. There was doubt, indeed, in the minds of some, whether or not the awarding of honors would stimulate appreciable the intellectual life of the students; but it had at least a fair chance of doing so, and, moreover, would bring forcefully to the attention of the students the fact that the university put its stamp of approval on excellent scholastic work. Of course this plan does not exclude later the trial of other ways which have been found to work successfully in other universities or which may be devised here in order to meet the particular needs of Stanford University."

MARY YOST, in *School and Society*.

OFFICERS OF CHAPTERS.—The following Chapters have reported recent election of officers:

University of Arkansas, President, V. L. Jones; Secretary, A. M. Jordan.

Indiana University, President, K. P. Williams, Secretary, Cora B. Hennel.

University of Nebraska, President, Fred W. Upson; Secretary, Hattie A. Williams.

Wellesley College, President, Roxanna H. Vivian; Secretary, Martha P. Conant.